

No doubt, when Adam lived **130** years and begat Seth, this means **130.0** years plus some fraction of a year. Suppose the fraction was $\frac{1}{2}$ year. Does this mean that we have to extend the chronology by an average of $\frac{1}{2}$ year at every birth? No, because we find that the biblical writers used a standard epoch for age-based years, and not the actual birth days when the birthdays were not on the first day of a year. Thus Seth is treated as **0.0** when Adam is **130.0** in the biblical chronology.⁷⁰ The actual chronology is that Seth was born at **130 + x** days of Adam in anno **131**, and when the **132**nd year of the world is reached, Seth is **1**. This is the method, even if Seth was born in the last month of Adam's **130**th year.

The Scripture seeks to explain chronology, not to obscure it. Assumptions that lead to ambiguity render a solution to the puzzle impossible. To place the matter beyond the possibility of solution was not the intent of the biblical author. For this reason, such assumptions must be discarded. To assume that the chronology connects with the birth month or day of the next child in line, and not with the ideal year epoch, i.e. the spring equinox leads to the need to guess exactly the day and month of birth. We only know it in Adam's case. Since guessing frustrates the biblical intent to provide us with a complete and solvable chronology, the assumption must be discarded.⁷¹

Validation of the Chronology [Optional Reading]⁷²

Year	1 =	0 Adam	Given
	<u>+130</u>	<u>+130</u>	Add 130 to both sides
Year	131 =	130 Adam	Result (a=b)
Adam	130 =	0 Seth	Given (b=c)
Year	131 =	0 Seth	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+105</u>	<u>+105</u>	Add 105 to both sides
Year	236 =	105 Seth	Result (a=b)
Seth	105 =	0 Enosh	Given (b=c)
Year	236 =	0 Enosh	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+90</u>	<u>+90</u>	Add 90 to both sides
Year	326 =	90 Enosh	Result (a=b)
Enosh	90 =	0 Cainan	Given (b=c)

Year	326 =	0 Cainan	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+70</u>	<u>+70</u>	Add 70 to both sides
Year	396 =	70 Cainan	Result (a=b)
Cainan	70 =	0 Mahalalel	Given (b=c)
Year	396 =	0 Mahalalel	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+65</u>	<u>+65</u>	Add 65 to both sides
Year	461 =	65 Mahalalel	Result (a=b)
Mahalalel	65 =	0 Jared	Given (b=c)
Year	461 =	0 Jared	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+162</u>	<u>+162</u>	Add 162 to both sides
Year	623 =	162 Jared	Result (a=b)
Jared	162 =	0 Enoch	Given (b=c)
Year	623 =	0 Enoch	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+65</u>	<u>+65</u>	Add 65 to both sides
Year	688 =	65 Enoch	Result (a=b)
Enoch	65 =	0 Methuselah	Given (b=c)
Year	688 =	0 Methuselah	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+187</u>	<u>+187</u>	Add 187 to both sides
Year	875 =	187 Methuselah	Result (a=b)
Methuselah	187 =	0 Lamech	Given (b=c)
Year	875 =	0 Lamech	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+182</u>	<u>+182</u>	Add 182 to both sides
Year	1057 =	182 Lamech	Result (a=b)
Lamech	182 =	0 Noah	Given (b=c)
Year	1057 =	0 Noah	If a=b, and b=c, then a=c
	<u>+600</u>	<u>+600</u>	Add 600 to both sides
Year	1657 =	600 Noah	Result (a=b)

For the "Given" see the scripture references in the charts connected to each synchronism. The = sign means "is synchronized with." As with normal equations, the same number can be added to each side without changing the equivalence. The Transitive property, i.e. if **a=b**, and **b=c**, then **a=c**, is regularly applied. For example, if Year **131** = Adam's Year **130**, and Adam's Year **130** = Seth's Year **0**, then Year **131** = Seth's Year **0**.

To Verify: (1) compare the givens to the scripture references in the charts or your bible. (2) check to see that the sums in the table are correct.

Notice that Methuselah dies just before the flood. His name means "dying it will come," and this refers to the destruction of the Flood as well as the redemption of the Messiah.⁷³ In the table Methuselah is born in year **688**, i.e. Year **688** = **0** Methuselah. Add Methuselah's lifespan of **969** years to both sides: **688 + 969 = 0 + 969 → 1657 = 969**. This verifies that Methuselah died just before the flood. The next year, **1658**, is the flood year.

→ then **[368→1: 368+599→1+599: 967→600]**. Result: Methuselah's **967**th year would be Noah's **600**th, but the flood was in the **600**th year of Noah. This is a contradiction, since Methuselah is prevented from reaching **969** before the flood. To repair this, all birth years have to be counted **0**, including Adam's first year. Not a small number of chronologists have fallen into the error of neglecting the **0**th year for Adam, yet implicitly including it after Adam. This error has the effect of shortening the chronology by one year.

⁷⁰ This is no different from the practice of assigning a year to a king. If a king came to the throne in the middle of a year, then the first year of his rule was counted when the New Year began. The part year before, his new year was called the accession year, and was not enumerated. The accession year of the king is the chronological analogue of the zero years in age-based counting.

⁷¹ One can ascertain the divine intent to provide a solvable chronology by realizing prophetic value in showing that the creator is in control of events. The biblical method of teaching is to obscure truths in order to motivate a search and discovery among God's people, since this is how fallen man may best learn, however, the divine intent is not to put a matter beyond discovery. The oldest reference to this principle is in *Seder Olam*.

⁷² These verifications may be bypassed at first, but at some point, the reader should work the sums.

⁷³ See Beechick (252.15), page 51.